

Dear Commissioners:

Stop hidden phone fees so I can truly compare prices of phone services. I support the petition filed by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and endorsed by other consumer advocacy organizations. CG Docket No. 04-208, Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Truth-In-Billing and Billing Format, is long overdue.

Phone bills should be truthful and easy to understand. I HAVE BEEN GETTING A TELEPHONE BILL CONSISTANTLY NOW FOR 18 YEARS, AND I HAVE ALWAYS FELT THAT I WAS BEING SCAMMED. It is extremeley difficult to trust that so many fees do actually exist when you have never heard of them before. So you have no choice but to trust. Recently I was talked into changing plans inorder to save money. But, once I was enrolled my phone bill went up \$20. I feel that phone companies have a monopoly on this system and that I am forced to oblige to their rules!

Because this practice is tolerated by the FCC, long distance and wireless phone companies are able to hide the true cost of service. These add-ons make the advertised price of service significantly less than the amount of the check I have to write each month to pay the bill. Competition will not work if consumers cannot accurately compare prices when shopping for service.

Many states are stepping up to address this problem. They should be allowed to proceed. However, the FCC shouldn't shirk its responsibility, nor limit states from doing more.

The FCC should immediately grant the NASUCA petition to investigate billing practices, and prohibit phone and wireless companies from imposing separate monthly fees, line items or surcharges unless expressly mandated by law or the charge is expressly authorized by a governmental authority.